

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, November 20, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and thus missed rollcall votes Nos. 541 and 542. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 541, H.R. 5382, the Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act; and "yea" on rollcall No. 542, H.R. 4818, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005.

IN HONOR OF JOHN D. WEBSTER
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John D. Webster, who is retiring from his post as Chief Financial Officer of the Library of Congress on January 3, 2005.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations, I know that I speak not only for myself, but also for all the members of the subcommittee and clerks in thanking John Webster for his service to the Library and to the United States Congress.

John leaves a legacy of dedication, the highest principles of financial management and reporting, a highly professional and devoted staff, and an enviable record of eight consecutive unqualified audit opinions on the Library's financial statements. We on the subcommittee are equally grateful for John's groundbreaking work as co-founder and co-chairman of the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council. We have benefited from John's testimony and appearance before this subcommittee on behalf of the Council.

John has served as the Library's chief liaison and representative to this subcommittee since 1996. He has worked hard—and often at inconvenient times including nights and weekends—to ensure that the subcommittee and its clerks had the information and understanding needed to complete appropriations work on the Library's complex budget. Both before and during my tenure, the Library has achieved major budget milestones—support for collections arrears reduction, collections security, an integrated library management system, storage modules at Ft. Meade, the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center, the National Digital Library, the Digital Talking Book Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the alternate computer facility and National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. John was keenly aware that each of these projects was a high priority for the Librarian of Congress, Dr. Billington,

and John ensured that the subcommittee understood these priorities as well as the complex financial underpinnings needed to appropriate funding requisite to their realization.

John Webster has served the Library for 15 years. He was named CFO in 2003, having been honored in 2000 as the recipient of the National President's Award by the Association of Government Accountants. As Chief of the Financial Management Office at the Library, and later CFO, John achieved not only Dr. Billington's goals but his professional commitment to modern, integrated financial systems that serve all customers—internal and external—with trust, confidence, and integrity. He leaves a powerful legacy in the Legislative Branch, one that we collectively applaud and hopefully can emulate. We wish John the best as he retires after a difficult year—losing his beloved wife Gloria and his only brother. His dedication to his work never failed even in light of terrible personal tragedies. His hard work, dedication, and expertise will be sorely missed.

IN HONOR OF DR. HENRY (HARRY)
MONIBA

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise today in honor of Dr. Henry (Harry) Moniba, former Vice President of Liberia. Dr. Moniba died suddenly on November 23, 2004, as a result of an automobile accident.

He was born in Liberia on October 22, 1937. Dr. Moniba earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education in 1964, a Masters degree in Secondary Education from SUNY, participated in a post-Masters program in International Relations and European Studies at NYU, and as a Fulbright Scholar, earned a Ph.D. in International Relations and African Studies at Michigan State University.

He began his professional career as an educator. A strong believer in the power of a good education, Dr. Moniba once stated: "If you think education is expensive, then, try ignorance". He served in various capacities in the education field, from classroom teacher to Director of Research at the Ministry of Education in Monrovia, Liberia.

Dr. Moniba had a long and distinguished career in public service. He served as First Secretary and Consul for the Embassy of Liberia in Washington, D.C., and Ottawa, Canada from 1976–1980; from 1981–1984, he served as Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Affairs, Liberia; he was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Liberia, to the Court of St. James in London, England, the Vatican, and the Sovereign Military Order Malta, in Rome from 1981–1984. In 1984, he was appointed Vice

President of the Interim National Assembly Government of Liberia, and in 1985, elected to the office of Vice President of Liberia. In 1994, he was awarded the Human Rights Award from the Liberian Human Rights Chapter.

Dr. Moniba loved his country, and worked tirelessly to establish peace and prosperity for Liberia. He understood well the true role of a politician in a democratic society, and said: "The objective of the good politician cannot, therefore, be the acquisition of power for its own sake or at any cost. What he wants is a healthy political environment in which he and his fellow citizens can lead a fulfilling life." At the time of his death, Dr. Moniba was one of the leading candidates for the 2005 Liberian presidential election.

I join his family and his many admirers throughout the world in mourning his passing. May his tireless commitment to his homeland and the advancement of peace and democracy in Liberia stand as a timeless memorial to him. May God bless him and his family, and may he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING BRAD KNIPP FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brad Knipp of Blue Springs, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brad has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brad has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brad Knipp for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL W.
CARUSO

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stanislaus County Supervisor Paul W. Caruso, as he will be retiring on January 1, 2005 as Supervisor of District 5 of the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

Paul W. Caruso was born on June 20, 1947 in San Jose, California. When Paul was two

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